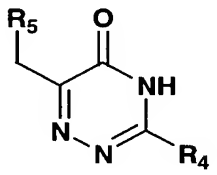
What is claimed is:

1. A process for the preparation of a pyrrolotriazine carboxylic acid comprising the step of: reacting compound II of the formula



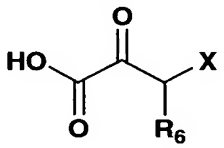
II

wherein

$R_4$ is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl; and

$R_5$ is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl;

with compound III of the formula



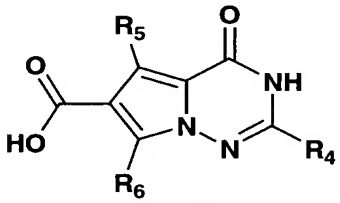
III

wherein

X is a leaving group;

$R_6$ is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl;

to afford compound IV of the formula



IV

wherein

$R_4$, $R_5$, and $R_6$ are as defined above.

2. The process of Claim 1 wherein:

$R_4$ is hydrogen and

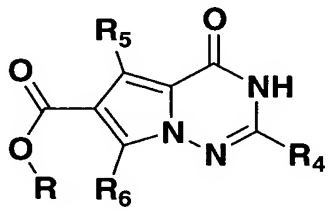
$R_5$ is methyl.

3. The process as defined in Claim 1 wherein compound III is a 3-halopyruvic acid.

4. The process as defined in Claim 3 wherein X is selected from Cl, Br, and $R_9SO_2O$-, wherein $R_9$ is selected from alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl and heteroaryl. .

5. The process of Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

(a) reacting compound IV with an alcohol in the presence of a coupling reagent to form an ester V of the formula



V

wherein

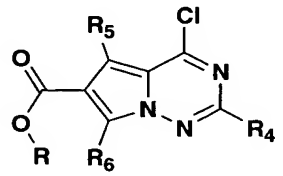
R is alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl

$R_4$ is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl;

$R_5$ is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl; and

$R_6$ is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl;

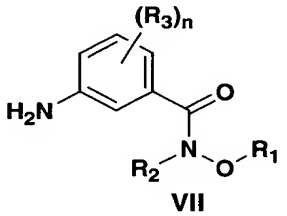
(b) reacting the ester V with a chlorinating reagent in the presence of a base to give a Compound VI of the formula



VI ;

wherein R, $R_4$-$R_6$ are as defined in step (a),

(c) reacting the Compound VI with an aniline Compound VII of the formula



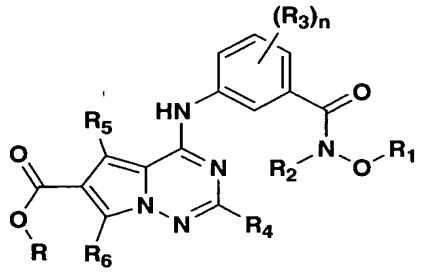
VII

wherein

$R_1$ and $R_2$ are independently selected from hydrogen and alkyl; and

$R_3$ is attached to any available carbon atom of the phenyl ring and at each occurrence is independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, halogen, cyano, nitro, amino, hydroxy, alkoxy, and substituted alkoxy;

to give compound VIII of the formula



VIII ;

wherein

R is alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl;

$R_1$ and $R_2$ are independently selected from hydrogen and alkyl;

$R_3$ is attached to any available carbon atom of the phenyl ring and at each occurrence is independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, halogen, cyano, nitro, amino, hydroxy, alkoxy, and substituted alkoxy;

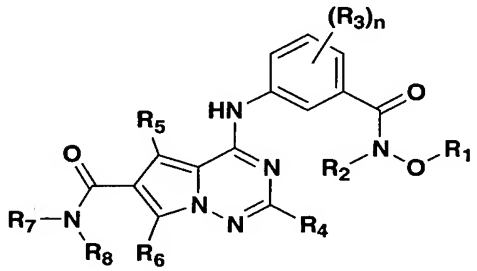
$R_4$ is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl;

$R_5$ is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl;

$R_6$ is hydrogen, alkyl, aryl, or heteroaryl; and

*n* is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

(d) reacting compound VIII with an amine $NHR_7R_8$ to afford pyrrolotriazine carboxamides and benzamides compounds of the formula



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wherein $R_1$ $R_2$, $R_3$ $R_4$ $R_5$, $R_6$ and *n* are as defined above, and

$R_7$ and $R_8$ are

(i) independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl or substituted alkyl, alkenyl or substituted alkenyl, cycloalkyl or substituted cycloalkyl, aryl or substituted aryl, heteroaryl or substituted heteroaryl, and heterocyclic or substituted heterocyclic; or

(ii) $R_7$ and $R_8$ can be taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached to form a heterocyclic or substituted heterocyclic group or a heteroaryl or substituted heteroaryl group; said group formed optionally containing an additional 1 or 2 heteroatoms.

6. The process as defined in Claim 5 wherein the coupling reagent in step (a) is hydrogen chloride or sulfuric acid.

7. The process as defined in Claim 6 wherein the coupling reagent is hydrogen chloride.

8. The process as defined in Claim 6 wherein the alcohol in step (a) is a $C_1$-$C_6$ alkanol.

9. The process as defined in Claim 8 wherein the alcohol is ethanol or methanol.

10. The process as defined in Claim 6 wherein step (a) is conducted in a solvent, wherein the solvent is a hydrocarbon, an ether, or an alcohol.

11. The process as defined in Claim 10 wherein the solvent is an alcohol.

12. The process as defined in Claim 11 wherein the alcohol is ethanol.

13. The process as defined in Claim 6 wherein the chlorinating reagent in step (b) is thionyl chloride, $POCl_3$, or $PCl_5$.

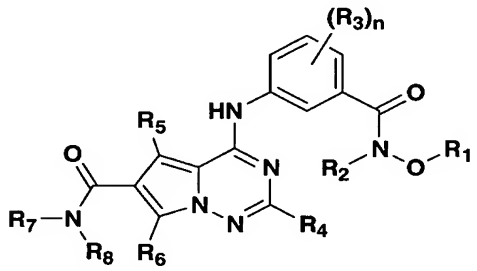
14. The process as defined in Claim 13 wherein the chlorinating agent is $POCl_3$.

15. The process as defined in Claim 6 wherein the aniline Compound VII in step (c) is N-alkoxy-3-amino-alkylbenzamide.

16. The process as defined in Claim 6 wherein the aniline Compound VII in step (c) is N-methoxy-3-amino-4-methylbenzamide.

17. The process as defined in Claim 6 wherein step (d) is conducted in a solvent or solvent mixture, wherein the solvent is a hydrocarbon, a halogenated hydrocarbon, an ether, an amide, or mixture thereof.

18. A compound of the formula



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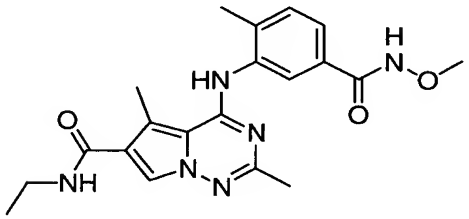
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or prodrug thereof prepared by the process as defined in Claim 5.

19. The compound of Claim 18 wherein the compound has the formula



20. The compound of Claim 19 wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt is a methanesulfonic acid salt.